Department of State

TELEGRAM

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 MONTER 00072 9723282

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 CU-05 NIC-21 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 INH-02

L-34 NSAF-00 NSC-10 P-03 RSC-11 PRS-01 SS-27 USIA-12

RSR-01 AID-28 DPR-02 /124 W

072156Z JUN 71

FM AMCONSUL MONTERREY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 541

INFO AMBASSAD MEXICO PRIORITY

UNCLAS MONTERREY 072

SUBJECT: CHANGE OF GOVERNMENT AND THE UNIVERSITY PROBLEM

REF: MONTERREY 763 AND 769, MEXICO 3110

1. POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN NUVO LEON OVER WEEKEND WERE DRAMATIC
   AND FAST MOVING. ON EVENING OF JUNE 4, UNIVERSITY RECTOR \PREVIOU
   GARZA RESIGNED. SHORTLY THEREAFTER COMMISSION OF EX-RECTORS AP
   POINTED BY STATE CONGRESS ONLY 24 HOURS EARLIER TO STUDY SI
   TUTUATION AND DRAFT NEW UNIVERSITY ORGANIC LAW SUBMITTED THEIR
   DRAFT. THIS IMMEDIATELY APPROVED IN EARLY MORNING HOURS OF JUNE
   5. A FEW HOURS LATER IT BECAME PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE THAT GOVERNOR
   ELIZONDO PLANNED RESIGN. HE READ RESIGNATION TO STATE CONGRESS
   DURING EARLY AFTERNOON. CONGRESS ACCEPTED, AND ANNOUNCED THAT IT
   WOULD APPOINT LUIS M. FARIA, FEDERAL SENATOR FROM NUVO LEON
   AS GOVERNOR TO REPLACE ELIZONDO. FARIAS SWORN IN DURING EVEN
   JUNE 9, AND NEXT DAY SIGNED NEW UNIVERSITY ORGANIC LAW.

2. NEW LAW (ANALYSIS OF WHICH FOLLOWS BY AIRGRAM) GRANTS FULL AND
   COMPLETE AUTONOMY TO UNIVERSITY. MANY IMPORTANT LOCAL POWER
   GROUPS INCLUDING SOME OF THE STUDENT GROUPS ACTIVE IN FIGHT AGAINST
   OLD LAW AND FAVORING AUTONOMY FEEL THAT LAW TOO SWEEPING IN ITS
   EFFECTS. THEY ALSO CONCERNED AT SPEED WITH WHICH LAW DRAFTED,
   PROPOSED, ENACTED AND SIGNED, WITHOUT APPARENT CONSULTATION
   WITH INTERESTED UNIVERSITY ELEMENTS. CONSERVATIVE ELEMENTS OF
   COMMUNITY ARE OBVIOUSLY SHOCKED AT SUDDEN AND DRAMATIC REVERSAL
   OF THEIR APPARENT "VICTORY" IN UNIVERSITY DISPUTE. THEY FEEL

UNCLASSIFIED
THAT PRICE EXACTED BY GOM FOR UNIVERSITY "AUTONOMY" WAS TOO EXTREME. THEY COMMENT, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT RESIGNATION OF Rector Treviño WAS WRITTEN ON STATIONERY FROM HOLIDAY INN HOTEL WHERE MINISTER BRAVO AHUJA WAS STAYING, AND IMPLY THAT IT WAS IN RESPONSE TO HIS ORDER; THEY NOTE THAT SPEED WITH WHICH SITUATION SOOFAST CHANGED INDICATES THAT IT WAS PLANNED BY GOM.

3. THERE NOW CONSIDERABLE FERMENT IN LOCAL POLITICAL CIRCLES, AND RUMORS ARE RIFE OF POSSIBLE FUTURE PROBLEMS. THERE HAS BEEN TALK OF POSSIBLE DEMONSTRATIONS BY CENTER AND RIGHT GROUPS OPPOSED TO NEW UNIVERSITY LAW AND TO POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS OF WEEKEND; IT WIDELY REPORTED, HOWEVER, THAT GOM ORDERED THAT NO DEMONSTRATIONS BE HELD. THERE ALSO TALK OF POSSIBLE FURTHER RESIGNATIONS OF LOCAL OFFICIALS, BUT PICTURE HERE IS ALSO UNCLEAR. AT PRESENT, NEW GOVERNOR STAYING AT HOTEL ANGELA UNDER HEAVY GUARD. ALTHOUGH ALL UNIVERSITY FACULTIES APPEARENTLY BACK IN SESSION, MEETING BEING HELD BY STUDENTS THIS MORNING TO STUDY NEW LAW AND DECIDE ON THEIR POSITION AS SITUATION DEVELOPS, WILL REPORT FURTHER.

ADAMS